



# News Release

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## **Tacoma doctor suspended: charged with threatening to kill his wife**

*Doctor has been criminally charged with felony kidnapping and harassment*

**OLYMPIA** — A Tacoma physician accused of threatening his wife with a gun has been ordered to stop practicing medicine immediately. The Medical Quality Assurance Commission and the Department of Health have suspended the medical license of Nick W. Uraga (MD00015616).

Charging papers say Uraga pulled-out a handgun while having dinner with his estranged wife and threatened to kill her unless she moved back in with him. Police apprehended Uraga, and his wife was not physically harmed in the incident.

Uraga has been charged with criminal first degree kidnapping and felony harassment. He also allegedly physically abused his wife three times in recent months, including one incident in which he's accused of choking her until she passed out. He is free on bail.

Because of the commission's action, Uraga cannot practice medicine in Washington at least until charges are resolved. He has 20 days to respond to the charges and request a hearing. Legal documents in this case are available online; click "[Provider Credential Search](#)" on the Department of Health home page ([www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)) or call 360-236-4700.

Consumers who believe a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call the department at 360-236-4700 to report their complaint. [A complaint form is also online](#) (<http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/Complaint.htm>). The form can be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to the agency's Health Systems Quality Assurance division.

The Medical Quality Assurance Commission protects public health and safety by assuring the competency and quality of physicians and physician assistants.

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